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January 15, 2004

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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Marlene H Dortch PHDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, S.W. Washington, D.C 20554

> Re Ex Parte Notice in CS Docket Nos 98-120 and 00-96 and DA 01-1264

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On January 14, 2004 Alan Frank, Chairman of the Network Affiliated Stations Alliance and President of Post-Newsweek Stations, Inc.; Andrew Fisher, President of Cox Television and member of the NASA Steering Committee; Jim Yager, CEO of Barrington Broadcasting Company and member of the NASA Steering Committee; and Jennifer Johnson and Jonathan Blake, counsel to NASA, met with Commissioner Jonathan Adelstein and his Legal Advisor Johanna Shelton, Commissioner Kathleen Abernathy and her Legal Advisor Stacy Robinson Fuller, and Jonathan Cody, Legal Advisor to Chairman Powell Mr Frank, Mr. Yager, Ms Johnson, and Mr. Blake also met with Commissioner Copps and his Senior Legal Advisor Jordan Goldstein and Commissioner Martin and his Legal Advisor Catherine Bohigian.

During these meetings, NASA representatives discussed digital multicast carriage requirements with reference to the recent factual submissions made by the NBC Television Affiliates Association and the CBS Television Network Affiliates Association. NASA representatives addressed the importance of ensuring that consumers get the maximum benefit from DTV and that innovative multicast services have the opportunity to flourish NASA representatives also addressed the issue of public interest standards for DTV, discussing the way in which broadcasters already are serving the public interest through their digital offerings and exchanging ideas with the Commissioners and their advisors on this subject. NASA representatives also inquired about the status of NASA's petition for inquiry and request for declaratory ruling, specifically the Commission's time frame for acting on the petition as it approaches its third anniversary

Pursuant to Section 1.1206(b) of the Commission's Rules, an original and 5 copies of this letter (two copies for each docket number) are being submitted to the Secretary's office, with copies to those at the FCC that attended the meetings. Copies of this letter also have been provided to Mania Baghdadi and Qualex International, as specified in Public Notice DA 01-1264

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Please direct any questions to the undersigned.

Jennifer Johnson

Counsel to the Network Affiliated Stations Alliance

cc Commissioner Adelstein
Commissioner Abernathy
Commissioner Copps
Commissioner Martin
Johanna Shelton
Stacy Robinson Fuller
Jordan Goldstein
Catherine Bohigian
Jonathan Cody
Mania Baghdadi
Qualex International